

Attention: All Providers

NPI Data Dissemination Now Available

On September 4, 2007, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) made available access to the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES). The data that is available includes only that health care provider data disclosable under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). In accordance with the e-FOIA Amendments, CMS is disclosing this data via the Internet. Data is available in two forms:

- 1. A query-only database, known as the NPI Registry. The NPI registry operates in a real-time environment and can be found here: https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov/NPPES/NPIRegistryHome.do. UserIDs and passwords are not needed to use the NPI Registry. There is no charge to use the NPI Registry.
- 2. A downloadable file which will be replaced and updated each month. It can be found here: http://nppesdata.cms.hhs.gov/cms NPI files.html. At the writing of this article, this function is not yet available. We recommend that you periodically check this link for its activation by CMS. CMS is recommending that providers view their NPI information on the NPI registry to ensure its validity.

If information regarding your NPI is incorrect, please update your information immediately. Providers can log into the NPPES website at https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov to make corrections. For questions regarding updates, contact the NPI enumerator by email at customerservice@npienumerator.com or by phone at 1-800-465-3203.

In addition to using this database to validate your information, we recommend that you search this database in the event you need the NPI of a referring provider and the information is not otherwise available. For more information, refer to the data dissemination instructions at: http://www.cms.hhs.gov/NationalProvIdentStand/06a DataDissemination.asp.

NPI – Get it! Share It! Use It! Getting one is free – Not having one can be costly!

EDS, 1-800-688-6696 or 919-851-8888